

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please remove the Cross Reference section on page 1 of the application.

~~CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS~~

~~This application is a continuation-in-part of pending United States patent application Serial Number 09/437,833, filed on 9 November 1999, the contents of which are incorporated herein by this reference as if set forth verbatim herein. The applicants claim the benefit of the filing date of the above application to the fullest extent permitted by 35 U.S.C. § 120.~~